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MORNING PAPERS : TUESDAY, 28TH JUNE, 1949.
EVENING PAPERS : TUESDAY, 28TH JUNE, 1949.
BROADCASTING STATIONS : MIDNIGHT, MONDAY, 27TH JUNE, 1949.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS - APRIL, 1949.

Employment Level a New Record.

At the end of April, 1949, the number of wage and salary earners in employment (exclusive of rural workers and female private domestics) was 2,439,200, the highest ever recorded. Of this number 1,776,800 were males and 662,400 were females.

State Increases During Last Six Months

The total number of persons in such employment rose by 2,600 during April, making the total increase 44,000 in the six months November, 1948 to April, 1949. Of these 36,000 were males and 8,000 females and the increase in persons employed in respective States over this six months period was:-

<u>State</u>	<u>Increase</u>		
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Persons</u>
New South Wales ..	13,200	1,500	14,700
Victoria ..	11,100	3,800	14,900
Queensland ..	2,800	600	3,400
South Australia ..	3,900	400	4,300
Western Australia ..	2,500	300	2,800
Tasmania ..	2,200	1,200	3,400

Changes in Industrial Groups

During April, 1949 numbers employed increased by 1,100 in Building and Construction, 1,200 in Transport and Communication, 200 in Property and Finance, 100 in Public Authority Activity, n.e.i., and 1,600 in Professional and Personal Services. Government employment increased by 2,200 including 800 in Postal Services and 500 in State Railways, 400 in Government Factories, and 200 in Education. A decrease of 1,200 during April in employment in Factories was due mainly to normal seasonal fluctuations, some power cuts and industrial disputes. Decreases in employment also occurred in Mining and Quarrying (100) and Commerce (400).

Factory Employment

The number of male wage and salary earners employed in factories fell during April, 1949 from 626,017 to 625,209. The greater part of the fall occurred in the manufacture of metals, machines, vehicles, etc., which was adversely affected by industrial disputes and showed a drop of 527, and in the manufacture of food, drink and tobacco which fell by 702 due mainly to seasonal movements in employment. Smaller falls took place in treatment of non-metalliferous mine and quarry products, the manufacture of bricks, pottery and glass, textile factories, skins and leather manufacture and sawmilling.

The total number of females employed in factories dropped by 361 to 212,592 at the end of April. Seasonal movements in food manufacture caused a drop of 1,166, mostly in Victoria, while there were minor falls in the number of females employed in several other factory groups. The number of females employed increased by 684 in textile factories and 285 in the manufacture of metals, machines and vehicles, other factory classes showing smaller increases.

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